MISSIONARY

REPORT AND MINUTES

OF THE

TWELFTH SESSION

OF THE

B. CARTER

Louisiana Annual Conference

OF THE

Methodist Episcopal Church, South,

HELD IN MANSFIELD, LA.,

Wednesday, February 3, 1858,

BISHOP G. F. PIERCE, PRESIDING.

WM. BLOOMFIELD, JR.,
Printer and Bookbinder, 46 Camp Street, Corner of Gravier.

NEW ORLEANS.
1858.

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PREFACE

"RESOLVED, That the Publishing Committee of New Orleans Christian Advocate be appointed a Committee to publish the Minutes." In accordance with this resolution of the Louisiana Conference, we respectfully present this as the result of our labors.

J. C. KEENER,
J. B. WALKER,
L. PARKER.

MISSIONS.

Constitution of the Missionary Society

OF THE

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE.

ARTICLE 1. This Society shall be called the MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF THE LOUISIANA CONFERENCE, auxiliary to the Missionary Society of the M. E. Church, South.

ART. 2. The object of this Society shall be to assist the Parent Society in extending Missionary operations in the United States and elsewhere.

ART. 3. The payment of *one dollar annually* shall constitute any person a member of the Society, and *ten dollars at any one time* shall secure life membership.

ART. 4. The Society shall elect a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and five Directors, whose term of service shall be during the pleasure of the Society, and who shall constitute a Board for the transaction of business.

ART. 5. The Board shall meet annually at such place as may be appointed for the annual Conference, on the afternoon of the first day of its session:

To confer with the Missionaries employed the previous year within the Conference territory, securing from each of them a *written report* of the *state* and *prospects* of his mission, and of the *amounts collected* by him for Missions, *with the name of each contributor*, to be embodied in the Annual Report of the Society:

To ascertain the Missions proper to be sustained and the number of Missionaries to be employed in the Conference District, to be presented to the Bishop in writing:

To make the necessary arrangements for holding the annual meeting of the Society at some time during the session of the Conference : and

To appoint a committee to audit the accounts of the Treasurer, and endorse the report of the Secretary before it is read to the Society.

ART. 6. At all meetings of the Board of Managers three members shall be necessary to form a quorum.

ART. 7. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Society and Board, unless providentially absent, when the Vice President shall preside, or in his absence a chairman chosen by nomination without debate.

ART. 8. The Secretary shall attend all meetings of the Society and Board, unless providentially hindered, when it shall be his duty to transmit the records to the place of meeting. He shall keep a journal of their proceedings, and prepare the Annual Report.

ART. 9. The Treasurer shall receive and hold all amounts collected for Missionary purposes in all the stations, circuits and missions throughout the Conference during the year, forwarding them to the General Treasury ; and shall publish a report of the same in such way as the Board shall direct.

ART. 10. The minutes of each meeting of the Society shall be signed by the President and Secretary.

ART. 11. This Constitution shall not be altered but by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, at the recommendation of the Board of Managers.

At a meeting of the Society in Shreveport, December 27, 1849, it was resolved unanimously "that the whole system of Missionary operations in this Conference be made to conform to the following plan, as written out for us by Bishop Capers, to wit :

1. The Missionary Committee of the Conference shall estimate the whole amount which is necessary for the Preacher appointed to any mission drawing for support upon the funds of the General Missionary Society.

2. The sum thus estimated shall be drawn for upon the General Treasurer, in Quarterly installments, payable in advance of each Quarter.

3. The above being the whole amount which any Missionary shall be at liberty to apply to himself ; the friends of the mission paying to him their contributions, he will pay them over to the Conference

Missionary Society, or to the Treasurer of the General Missionary Society, as may be convenient, without delay.

4. The Missionary being thus provided for out of the Missionary Treasury, will be expected and required to use his best endeavors to obtain as much as he prudently can for the Society.

5. At each Conference a Committee of Publication shall be appointed to prepare the Minutes of the Conference for publication, and in this will be included the Missionary Reports ; and especially every single cent which may have been contributed during the year by any person for the support of missions, which shall be sent to every one of our friends, especially to such as have contributed, whether the amount be $100 or one cent.

Officers of the Louisiana Conference Missionary Society.

Rev. Joel Saunders, President.	Rev. Lewis A. Reed, Director.
" R. Randle, Vice President.	" A. B. Fly, "
" J. C. Keener, Secretary.	" Philo M. Goodwyn, "
" A. E. Goodwyn, Treasurer.	" Stephen J. Davies, "
	" B. F. White, "

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SECRETARY.

" Now I grant" says Thomas Arnold, " that this day of which the Apostle speaks has never yet shown so brightly as he had hoped and imagined ; clouds have up to this hour continually overshadowed it. I mean that the lives of Christians have hindered them from being the light of the world. It has been a light pale and dim, and therefore the works of darkness have continued to abound. * * * We see that God's promises have been in part forfeited: We see that Christ's kingdom has not been what it was prophecied it should be."

Those words of their distinguished author contrast sharply with those victories of the Church of Christ which Missionary writers and speakers have been accustomed to announce annually. Might not her

annual defeats have furnished a theme far more ample ! To ascertain the causes and to recount the extent of these failures would be a task worthy of this periodical review of the forces of the Church Militant.

Among the entertainments of the Missionary platform not the least is the recounting what others have achieved, and a corresponding diversion from what has been done by ourselves. This has led us away from the Louisiana Conference to the entire work of the Church, South ; then away from the Church, South, to the deeds of other Christian Churches ; then from the Mission fields of all the Churches we have wandered into and dwelt upon regions remote Arctic, Middle, and Extra-Tropical of all continents and islands where Missionaries, it may be, have *not* gone and have only looked over into, while as yet standing outside of " Macedonia." The Missionary zeal of the Church seems to lie rather in surveying the vastness of these whitened fields than in entering them. And this satisfaction she will have at least once a year. It must be admitted that some profit of conscience is realized thereby, else what could induce us to periodically harrow up our souls with the social misery and spiritual darkness which presides over those Christless lands. One thing must be admitted, that it furnishes a conscious evidence that our hearts still are " in the right place," and our intentions still are good, and our aims still are high.

The *actual* work of sending the Gospel to the Heathen is, however, a more difficult affair ; and one that cannot be effected by the most evangelical mental processes nor by annual stages and intermissions of zeal. Self-denial in its most comprehensive display is the price as it was absolutely the cost of this Divine good. Not only those who go must be full of its spirit but those who stay must be full of its sacrifice. A luxurious Church cannot send the Gospel to the Heathen, because luxury and self-denial do not go together: a worldly minded Church cannot, for the love of the world and the love of souls do in no wise agree together. When was the Church willing to make herself poor that she might give the bare Gospel to such as die for lack of it ! at what time has she denied herself one single pleasure to accomplish that greatest good ? Occasional Missionaries and Churches have kept alive the force of the Lord's command, " Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature ;" and from the First Century until this present day these exceptions have brightened the dark waste over which she has come,

like scintillations from a fitful planet. There are Missions we have not forgotten ; we delight to dwell upon them—Missions amid the darkest haunts of Paganism, we honor them ; they fringe the gloom with hope, we rejoice in their sign ; they are bright particular sparks of the Heavenly fire of Pentecost ; let us thank God and take courage—" seven thousand are left."

Meanwhile a zeal to send the Gospel some where, has not been wanting to the Church. She has sent it to her own people, so that if not exactly to the Heathen she will do the next best thing—send it all about home. Indeed she will spend herself in this way—that is to a considerable extent ; for they have not *all* believed; and how shall they believe except they hear, and how shall they hear without a preacher, and how shall they preach except they be sent? As it is written, how beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of them that preach the Gospel of peace.

Sometimes she has crossed the verge and reached out toward the veritable Heathen. For instance, have not we of the M. E. Church, South, three Missionaries in China; and have we not almost succeeded during the last ten years in building a Chapel in China—a work which must certainly have been completed this year but for the recent depression of the two great staples of the South; for retrenchment must first begin at the house of God. Then when the four hundred millions of China shall see what we have provided for them, they can say, in the words of the Syro-phenician woman, "Truth Lord—" the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table."

Our Missions to the Indian have furnished a much more distinct exception to the domesticated zeal of the Christian Church. A large share of toil, of self-denying love has prompted and sustained those who labor in that field. It is the purest Missionary ray of our Zion.

Next to this we place the work among the Germans. This is full of promise. During the year a brick Church has gone up in the bounds of the first Mission. The building is highly creditable to those friends of German Methodism who have contributed to its erection. Four thousand dollars are necessary to complete it. The several German Missions number 210 members, and 280 children in Sabbath schools.

In a remarkable instance God has been merciful to our lack of zeal and has sent the Heathen to us, to our firesides and fields. What are we

doing for those who have come to be our own; who from barbarous descent and burning clime have been brought to us for instruction in the word of God? Indirectly, a good deal; directly, somewhat: and yet there are tens of thousands of slaves in Louisiana who no more hear the Gospel than those do who are still in the wilds of Africa. By the last census, we have in Louisiana 244,809 blacks, nine-tenths of whom are in the bounds of our own Conference. The number reported as preached to by us is 18,507.

Eleven Missionaries, eleven ladies and two children were murdered in the recent great East India revolt: of these, eight were Americans. Three hundred and fifty-four thousand dollars' worth of property was destroyed belonging to the Missions, of which sum $160,000 was of the American Missions. From the beginning of its connection with India until now the chief object which the English Government has had in view has been gain. Whatever blessings it has conferred upon the millions of that vast slave possession have been incidental and only subservient to that end—such is the testimony of the Organ of the Church of Scotland.

The policy of the East India Company, in regard to Christianity, may be reckoned from the fact, that by law the publication of the Bible is a penal offense, punishable by seizure of the presses: in the schools supported by the Government, the name of God and Christ is strictly forbidden to be spoken; those of the Sepoy troops who have professed Christianity have been disgraced by expulsion from the service. This gigantic system of unreleaved slavery, in which the moral and religious rights of the enslaved are made to yield to the soulless avarice of an incorporated Commercial Company, has received a final check by one of the most frightful calamities ever recorded.

The Scriptures have secured to those who may be enslaved to Christian Nations, the right to a participation in the knowledge of the Christian religion, and to all its experimental benefits. The folly and wrong which has denied or ignored these rights to the millions of India serves to enforce upon us the obligation and prime importance of sending within reach of every plantation the sound of those truths which can alone give permanent happiness and security to both Master and Slave. By every Chapel we build along our bayous we advance mutually the temporal and spiritual interest of both.

That we are not insensible to these duties may be seen in the following summary of the labors within the bounds of the Louisiana Conference in behalf of our slave population.

The Colored Missions in New Orleans was served by Rev. H. N. McTyeire, and consist of 1150 members, 350 probationers and 6 local preachers. Amount collected from the said Mission, $85. Amount raised for Church building $420. Number of slaves preached to, 2500: Colored children catechised, 80.

Lafourche and B. Black Mission was served by Revs. T. L. Beard, and Jesse Fulton, and consists of 540 members and 56 probationers; 1599 slaves were preached to, and 300 children. Amount collected, $253 50.

Bayou Teche Mission was served by Rev. J. T. Fountain, and consists of 130 probationers; number of slaves preached to, 600; amount collected, $450. The Mission is prosperous and can be enlarged.

St. Landry Colored Mission was supplied by Rev. Calvin A. Frazee, and consists of 193 members; amount collected, $138 40. The Mission is doing a good work.

N. Rapides Colored Mission was served by Revs. W. D. Staton and U. Whatley, in connection with the neighboring circuit. It consists of 93 members, 47 probationers. and includes 700 slaves.—Amount collected, $130.

Red River Mission was supplied by Rev. Robert Armstead, and consists of 43 members, 140 probationers, $149 30 were collected and 350 slaves preached to.

Tensas Colored Mission was served by Revs. E. W. Griswold and T. J. Upton, and consists of 378 members, 114 probationers. Amount collected, $876 45, and 523 children catechised, and 2500 slaves have been preached to. This Mission has been supported by a Missionary Society formed within its bounds. The managers of the Society cared for the Missionaries and made collections for their support. This experiment has been so far entirely successful, and we commend the policy to the Planters within the various Mission fields of the Conference.

One lot of ground has been secured for the erection of a Church, and two others have been tendered within this Mission.

Madison Mission was served during a part of the year by the late Rev. Jesse Jenkins, * and consists of 57 members and includes 800 slaves.

Monroe Colored Mission was served in connection with Monroe and Trenton, by Rev. R. Trippett, and consists of 78 members and 54 probationers. Number of slaves preached to, 2000.

Carroll Colored Mission was served by Rev. W. R. Davis, and consists of 34 members. Amount collected, $249 00. The Missionary says in his report, "There are within the bounds of this work at least 7000 negroes, five thousand of whom never hear a Gospel sermon."

Four appointments, including 90 members and 15 probationers, and 300 slaves were served by Rev. B. F. White, in connection with Waterproof. $50 collected.

Chicot Circuit Colored Mission was supplied by Rev. F. White, and consists of 35 members and 25 probationers. It includes 600 slaves and has contributed to its own support, $150.

Columbia Mission was served in connection with the Columbia Circuit, by the Rev. W. A Manley. It numbers 90 probationers, includes 600 slaves. It has contributed to the cause of Missions $103, and to its own support $100.

* Rev. Jesse Jenkins, Local Elder, came from Arkansas to Louisiana in 1854. He was employed on New Iberia Circuit, '54 and '55; on Tensas, Miss., '56, and in Madison, Miss., '57, where he died Oct. 17th. A plain, practical good man—his end was peace.

FORM OF CONSTITUTION.

FOR

"JUVENILE MISSIONARY SOCIETIES."

ARTICLE 1. This Association shall be called the *Juvenile Missionary Society of the Sabbath School.*

ART. 2. This Society shall be auxiliary to the Missionary Society of the Louisiana Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

ART. 3. The object of this Society shall be the raising of funds for the purpose of educating Chinese youth in this country, and such other objects as the Society shall direct.

ART. 4. The Officers shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and a Board of Managers.

ART. 5. All officers shall be elected for a term of and no person who is not a member of the Sabbath School, and also of this Society, shall be eligible to any office.

ART. 6. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the Society; and in the absence of the President, this duty shall devolve upon the Vice President.

ART. 7. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a record of the proceedings of each meeting of the Society; to keep an alphabetical list of all the members; to call the roll at each meeting, and note those absent, and the amounts severally paid in by those present; to enter upon the Minute Book the Treasurer's Report and such other reports as may be directed by the Society.

ART. 8. The Treasurer shall receive and keep all the funds of the Society, and report the amount on hand and receipts at each regular meeting; and the names of all in arrears.

ART. 9. The Board of Managers shall consist of the Superintendent of the Sabbath School, one male and one female teacher, five boys and five girls. Five members of the Board shall constitute a quorum. It shall be the duty of the Board to attend to all matters of business during the interval of the regular meetings, for which purpose the Superintendent may call them together.

ART. 10. No money shall be paid out of the Treasury, except by order of the Society or the Board of Managers.

ART. 11. Any person desiring to become a member of this Society may do so by paying *ten cents* as initiation fee, and five cents monthly thereafter.

ART. 12. This Society shall hold its regular meetings on the first Sabbath of every month; fifteen shall constitute a quorum. The order of proceedings shall be as follows :

1. Reading Minutes of preceding meeting.
2. Receiving new members.
3. Calling Roll and Receiving Monthly Dues.

4. Unfinished Business.
5. Report of Treasurer.
6. Report of Committee.
7. Miscellaneous Business.
8. Adjournment.

ART. 13. At the last regular meeting of the financial year, the Society shall determine the special disposition of the funds in hand.

ART. 14. This Society shall hold its Anniversary at such time and place as the Board of Managers shall direct.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

A. E. GOODWYN, TREASURER,

IN ACCOUNT WITH LOUISIANA CONFERENCE MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

1858.	NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT.	Dr.	
Carondelet street Church		$383 82	
" " Sabbath School Missionary Society		333 15	$716 97
Felicity street		207 50	
" " S. S. M. S.		148 80	
			356 30
Moreau street			
" " S. S. M. S.			155 55
First German Mission		32 95	
" " S. S. M. S.		10 00	
			42 95
Second German Mission		90 00	
" " S. S. M. S.		35 00	
			125 00
Third German Mission			43 00
Fourth " "			27 40
N. O. Circuit			
" " S. S. M. S.			100 00
Thibodeaux			12 15
Wesley, Soule and Winans Chapels			95 50
Baton Rouge			101 00
Plaquemine			27 00
Lafourche and Bayou Black Circuit, and Colored Mission, to wit:			
J. and G. Beasly		50 00	
Wm. Littlejohn		100 00	
H. Cage		50 00	
T. Gibson		50 00	
For German Mission		3 50	
			253 50
Atchafalaya			3 00
			$2059 32

OUACHITA DISTRICT.

Minden Circuit			$159 35
Homer "			131 95
Farmerville Circuit			55 10
Monroe and Trenton, and Colored Mission, to wit :			
To make Mrs. Mary St. Clair, a life member :			
By Mrs. R. Trippitt		20 00	
To make Rev. R. Trippitt a life member, :			
By Mrs. Eliza Nobles	5 00		
Mrs. Mary St. Clair Hughes	5 00		
Mrs. Dr. Robards	5 00		
Mrs. Judge Richardson	5 00		
		20 00	
Sundry persons		15 00	
			55 00
Ouachita Circuit, to wit :			
To make D. P. Cullin, L. M.,			
Mr. Collins		10 00	
Rev. J. Williams		10 00	
To make Rev. C. W. Hodge, L. M. :			
Dr. J. Simmons		20 00	
To make R. R. R. Alexander, a L. M. :			
By sundry persons		20 00	
To make Mary J. Phillips a L. M. :			
By sundry persons		20 00	
To make Martha Gainy a L. M. :			
By Rev. D. P. Cullin		10 00	
Rev. C. W. Hodge		10 00	
To make A. E. Cullin a L. M. :			
By sundry persons		20 00	
To make Nancy Robertson a L. M. :			
Sundry persons		20 00	
Cash		2 00	
			142 00
Bastrop Circuit, to make M. L. Pipes L. M. :			
A. S. Pipes	5 00		
W. H. Davis	5 00		
Dr. Myers	5 00		
J. H. Brigham	5 00		
		20 00	
To make Wilie W. Pipes, L M. :			
Mr. E. A. Sterling		20 00	
Cash		100 00	
			140 00
Jackson Circuit			34 20
			$717 60

OPELOUSAS DISTRICT.

Franklin and Pattersonville, to wit :			
To make Dr. John A. Smith, a L. M. :			
By Wm. T. Palfrey	10 00		
Lyman Harding	10 00		
		20 00	
To make Miss Helen D. Burnett, a L. M. :			
Master Willie Wilson	5 00		
" Henderson Morriss	5 00		
" Thomas Chapman	5 00		
" Rodney K. Fontain	5 00		
		20 00	
To make Mrs. Elizabeth A. Fontain, a L. M. :			
J. B. Murphy	10 00		
Mrs. Nancy Tarkington	10 00		
		20 00	
To make Wm. T. Palfrey, a L. M. :			
Dr. J. F. Fontain	5 00		
J. B. Murphy	5 00		
Dr. J. A. Smith	5 00		
S. J. Davies	5 00		
		20 00	
To make Rev. S. J. Davies a L. M. :			
By the Congregation of Franklin		20 00	
Public Collection at Franklin		13 35	
			113 35

Amount brought forward		$113 35
To make Miss Eliza R. Lynch a L. M. :		
By her Father	20 00	
By other persons at Public Collection	23 00	
		156 35
New Iberia Circuit		310 00
Opelousas Circuit		239 90
Chicot		207 50
Alexandria		
North Rapides Circuit and Mission		130 00
Harrisonburg Circuit		
Columbia Circuit		103 00
Bayou Teche Colored Mission		450 00
		$1596 75

SHREVEPORT DISTRICT.

Shreveport	
Caddo Circuit	78 50
Mansfield Station, Pleasant Hill Circuit } See Anniversary	
Natchitoches	
Sparta	
Red River	118 00
Red River Mission	
North Bossier	1 00
	$197 50

LAKE PROVIDENCE DISTRICT.

Providence and Bunch's Bend	22 00
Monticello and Floyd	
Swan Lake and Pecan Grove	71 00
Carroll Colored Mission	
Bayou Macon Circuit	
Bœuff River Circuit	
Bœuff Prairie "	
Trinity	60 10
Waterproof and Tensas	512 50
St. Joseph and Wesley Chapel	480 00
Mound Bayou and B. Vidal	80 00
Richmond Circuit	35 00
Madison Colored Mission	250 00
	$1510 60

FROM OTHER SOURCES.

Members Annual Subscription	59 00
Mrs. L. A. Goodwyn, Annual Subscription	5 00
Master H. Kavanaugh Goodwyn, "	1 00
" H. C. Wright, "	1 00
" J. L. and W. H. Wright, do. 50 cents each	1 00
Miss Clara Wright	0 50
Mrs. M. A. Randle	5 00
Master T. and R. Randle, $1 each	2 00
Miss Laura H. Randle	1 00
Master Howard G. Goodwyn	1 00
" Watson D. Goodwyn	1 00
Miss Fanny L. Trippett	1 00
" Sally A. F. Trippett	1 00
	$79 50

ANNIVERSARY AT MANSFIELD.

Rev. R. Randle, John S. Childers, A. D. Jourdan, B. F. Chapman, A. M. Chapman, Mrs. Susan Brack, J. J. Greening, and Rev. W. E. Doty, $100 each	800 00
J. D. Law, Charles Beard, Mrs. John S. Childers, and B. F. Chapman, $50 each	200 00
Mrs. H. L. Moss, Mrs. J. W. Howard, Mrs. J. Pearson, and Mrs. A. M. Campbell, each $25	100 00
Amount carried over	$1100 00

Amount brought forward		$1100 00
To make J. C. Keener, a L. M. : Z. Preston	20 00	
To make Mrs. J. Person, a L. M. : By Rev. Jesse Fulton	20 00	
To make J. C. Porter, a L. M. : Mrs. Susanna Jones	20 00	
To make Mrs. S. A. C. Porter, a L. M. : Z. Preston	20 00	
To make Mrs. Bishop Pierce a L. M. : Mrs. Norton, of New Orleans	20 00	
To make Miss Sarah G. Moss, a L. M. : Rev. E. Stevenson, D. D., A. J. Miller, J. B. Walker, J. F. Scurlock, $5 each.	20 00	
To make Mrs. Martha Wimple a L. M. : By J. C. Keener	20 00	
To make E. D. Pitts a L. M. : By Miss S. J. McNeely, Miss J. Dubois, Miss Bettie Chapman, and Mrs. Bettie Fullilove, $5 each	20 00	
To make Mrs. H. J. Philips a L. M. : W. T. Gibson	20 00	
To make Mrs. Caroline Scales a L. M. : A Gentleman	20 00	
To make Mrs. L. R. Turner a L. M. : Jane G. Fullilove	20 00	
To make Mrs. A M. Campbell a L. M. : Rev. R. Trippett, Rev. J. Ivey, Rev. H. Avery, and Rev. R. R. R. Alexander, $5 each	20 00	
To make Mrs. Capt. Munday a L. M. : Rev T. B. and B. F. White, $10 each	20 00	
To make Miss Sally McNeely a L. M. : Prof. Stacy, Prof. Scales, Prof. Pitts, and J. H. Sample, $5 each	20 00	
To make Wm. Preston Cravens a L. M. : Z. Preston	20 00	
To make Rev, R. Randle a L. M., Mrs Philips, Mrs. Draughan, Mrs Martha Lewis, and J. C. Sample, $5 each.	20 00	
To make Mrs. Capt. Shelly a L. M. : Rev. J. H. Boult and N. A. Cravens, $10 each	20 00	
To make Miss Nettie Howard a L. M. : Rev. J. T. Fontain, $5, Rev. H. N. McTyeire, $5, Rev. R. J. Harp, $10	20 00	
To make E. D. Pitts, Jr., a L. M. : Miss Crosby, Miss Crowder, Cassie Porter and F. Wells, $5 each	20 00	
To make Miss Virginia Greening a L. M. : J. L. Scales and T. J. Williams, $10 each	20 00	
To make Mrs. M. R. Thomas a L. M. : Rev. L. Parker, F. T. Rawson, S. J. Graves and T. McClenden, $5 each	20 00	
To make Miss J. A. DuBois a L. M. : A. T. Wimtish and J. D. Odam, $10 each	20 00	
To make Miss Clodia Pierce a L. M. : A. M. and B. F. Chapman, $10 each	20 00	
To make Miss Mary Pierce a L. M. : John S. Childers	20 00	
To make J. Hamilton, D. D., a L. M. : Mrs. Howe, and Mrs. Lewis, $5 each, and J. G. Odam, $10	20 00	
To make Miss Jane Crosby a L. M. : Rev. S. B. Suratt, C. Thompson, J. L. Scales, and J. M. Foster, $5 each	20 00	
To make J. C. Keener, D. D., a L. M. : John S. Childers	20 00	
To make Miss Virginia Greening a L. M. : Rev. J. L. Chapman, and Rev. E. W. Griswold, $10 each	20 00	
To make Lovick Pierce, Jr., aL. M. : Rev. A. E. Goodwyn, J. D. Odam, Mr. Rhodes and Mrs. Brack, $5 each	20 00	
To make H. Kavanaugh Goodwyn, a L. M. : By Rev. R. A. New, Wm. H. Scales, C. Thompson, Dr. Whitten, $5 each	20 00	
To make Rev. H. C. Thweatt a L. M. : Mrs. Sturgis, Bettie Brack A. L. Pearson, and J. A. DuBois, $5 each	20 00	
To make Miss Susan Mixer a L. M. : Rev. J. B. Walker, A. E. Goodwyn, J. F. Scurlock and H. Avery, $5 each	20 00	
To make Rev. D. S. Watkins a L. M. : Mrs. B. T. Metcalf	20 00	
To make Rev. R. R. R. Alexander a L. M. : Rev. S. J. Graves, A. D. Gaskill, T. McClenden and A. E. Goodwyn, $5 each.	20 00	
J. T. Fullilove	25 00	
Cash	31 50	
		736 50
		$1836 50

RECAPITULATION.

New Orleans District	$2059 32
Ouachita District	717 60
Opelousas District	1596 75
Shreveport District	197 50
Lake Providence District	1510 60
From Various Sources	79 50
Anniversary at Mansfield	1836 50
Grand Total	$7997 77

Cr.

By Amounts :		
Paid Missionary in Lafourche Mission	250 00	
" " " St. Landry "	138 40	
" " " Evergreen "	150 00	
" " " N. Rapides "	130 00	
" " " Bayou Teche "	525 00	
" " " Tensas "	952 50	
" " " Madison "	250 00	
		2395 90
By Amounts :		
Paid for 2000 Copies of Conference Missionary Reports & Minutes	200 00	
Wrapping and Mailing same	2 50	
Unpaid Pledges of Waterproof Anniversary	221 70	
Less Estimate of Cotton sold	53 39	
		477 59
By Amount before paid		1912 98
Paid H. N. McTyeire, Assistant Treasurer, at Conference, in Drafts & Notes.		2863 30
By Amount of Pledges at Mansfield Anniversary, (not yet paid)		207 50
By 3 Bales of Cotton to be shipped		103 00
FEBRUARY 9. Balance in hand		37 50
		$7997 77

CONFERENCE MISSIONARY APPORTIONMENTS FOR 1858.

NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT.

Carondelet St.	$500 00	N. O. Circuit	$150 00
Felicity St.	350 00	Laurel St. & Boligny	100 00
Moreau St.	100 00	Plaquemine & Gros Tete.	150 00
1st German Mission	150 00	Lafourche & B. Black.	500 00
2d " "	100 00	Achafalaya	100 00
3d " "	50 00	Thibodaux	100 00
4th " "	50 00	Baton Rouge	100 00

OPELOUSAS DISTRICT.

Franklin and Patters'ville.	$200 00	Evergreen Mission	$ 50 00
New Iberia	200 00	Alexandria	100 00
Opelousas	100 00	North Rapides Circuit	100 00
Bayou Teche Mission	100 00	N. Rapides Col. Mission.	100 00
Vermillion	50 00	Harrisonburg	50 00
Washington	100 00	Columbia	150 00
Evergreen	100 00		

SHREVEPORT DISTRICT.

Shreveport	$200 00	Sparta	$100 00
Caddo Circuit	250 00	Red River Circuit	200 00
Mansfield and P. Hill	250 00	Lake Bistenau	50 00
Grand Cane Circuit	100 00	North Bossier	100 00
Natchitoches	50 00		

OUACHITA DISTRICT.

Minden	$200 00	Monroe and Trenton	$100 00
Homer	250 00	Ouachita Circuit	200 00
Jackson	75 00	Bastrop	250 00
Farmerville	100 00	Dugdemona	50 00
Vernon	100 00	Winfield Mission	300 00
Sabine Mission	50 00		

LAKE PROVIDENCE DISTRICT.

Providence Circuit	$500 00	St. Joseph	$250 00
Carroll Circuit	200 00	Trinity	100 00
Carroll Mission	100 00	Winsboro'	100 00
Ion	100 00	Richmond	150 00
Waterproof	300 00	Tensas Mission	100 00
Concordia Circ't & Mission	100 00		

MINUTES.

QUESTION 1.—What Preachers are Admitted on Trial?

ANSWER.—John F. Wynn, Henry W. Segrist, Robert T. Parish. *Re-admitted:* James D. Adams, John P. Richardson, Edwin D. Earnhart.

Q. 2.—Who remain on Trial?

A.—E. D. Pitts, Wm. R. Davis, Thomas J. Upton, William D. Stayton, John H. Boult, John C. Pitts, Robert A. New, * Jephta Landrum.

Q. 3.—Who are Admitted into full connection, and Elected to Deacon's Orders?

A.—Jesse Fulton, James T. Fontain, Thomas H. McClendon, W. G. McGaughey, † Fisher T. Rawson, J. F. Scurlock, Robert Parvin, Charles W. Hodge, Dabney S. Cullen. *Local Deacons:* Samuel Webb.

Q. 4.—Who are the Deacons?

A.—Charles W. Coursey, Seaborn J. Graves.

Q. 5.—Who have been Elected and Ordained Elders?

A.—Uriah Riley. *Local Elders:* P. B. Matthews, James W. Reynolds, Jesse W. Chaney. *s*

Q. 6.—Who have Located this year?

A.—William A. Manley, and J. M. Perrickmen, Located at their own request.

Q. 7.—Who are the Superanuated and worn out Preachers?

A.—Thomas Samford, David Kinnear.

Q. 8.—Who have withdrawn this year?

A.—J. M. Hofer and G. Busmann.

Q. 9.—Are all the Preachers blameless?

A.—They were examined one by one, and their characters were passed by the Conference.

Q. 10.—Who have died this year?

A.—Rev. W. Stevenson, and Rev. D. S. McBride.

* Already in Deacon's Orders.

† Already in Elders Orders.

s Elected, but not Ordained.

MEMOIR.—Rev. Wm. Stevenson was born in the State of South Carolina, near a station called Ninety-six, (at that time a frontier) on the 4th October, 1768. His parents were Presbyterians, and he was baptized in that Church in infancy. He was the subject of religious impressions at

a very early age, before reaching his eighth year, which he attributed to the instructions and influence of his pious mother. At the age of 24, he emigrated to Tennessee, and on the first day of June, 1800, when in the 32nd year of his age, he was converted, at which time he joined the Methodist Episcopal Church, and immediately began to exhort, then to preach, and in this way labored much during the *great revival* in Tennessee, Kentucky and Missouri, which commenced about that time. In the year 1811 he joined the Travelling Connection in Missouri, and in 1813 came down to South Arkansas, and soon after into Louisiana, where he continued to labor until he wore himself out.

The last regular work he did was in Caddo Parish, A. D. 1839, at which time he sustained a supernumerary relation to the Conference. He was, at the end of that year, placed in a superannuated relation, which relation he sustained until his death, which took place on the 5th day of March, 1857, in the 89th year of his age, and the 44th of his Itinerancy.

Father Stevenson was a good man, and if abundant usefulness *can* constitute a man *great*, he was eminently a great man.

Methodism in Louisiana owes much to him. There were many seals to his ministry scattered throughout the country. He was a good preacher, man of fine social qualities, and in the true sense, "devoted to God."

He in the fullest sense of the word, gave himself up to God and his work, making no provision for this life, but seeking his all in Heaven. He walked with God, held constant communion with Him, and rejoiced in the enjoyment of "Perfect Love."

As was to be expected his end was triumphant. He had suffered the infirmities of age—had become *deaf*, suffered much bodily pain—but was happy to the last

He seemed to hear his Master saying: "It is enough—come up higher."

JNO. PIPES,
JOEL SAUNDERS. } COMMITTEE.

MEMOIR.—Rev. D. S. McBride was transferred from the Memphis Conference to Louisiana, in the Fall of 1856. His name was received by the Conference, and he was appointed to the Nachitoches Circuit; but in the providence of God he was not permitted to reach his new and responsible field of labor. On his way from Memphis to the home of his parents, whither he was repairing to take leave of his affectionate relatives, he was suddenly and unexpectedly summoned from his labors and toils on earth to his reward in Heaven. He was ready to obey the summons. He died in the peace and faith of the Gospel. When or where he was born we are not informed, nor when he made a profession of religion. He joined the Itinerancy, however, uniting with the Memphis Conference in October, 1855, having travelled but one year. He was a young man of fine promise and much usefulness.

Signed JOHN PIPES,
JOEL SAUNDERS. } COMMITTEE.

[Copy of Original.]

Q. 11.—What are the numbers in Society?

NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT.	White.		Colored.		Local Pr'chers.	
	MEM.	PROB.	MEM.	PROB.	WHITE.	COL'D.
Carondelet Street	250	20			3	
Felicity Street	239	20			4	
Moreau Street	106	33			1	
New Orleans Circuit	104	35			3	
Winan's, Wesley, and Soule			1150	350		6
Baton Rouge	150	3	140		2	2
Thibodeaux	20	2	50	15		
Atchafalaya	15	2		14		
First German Mission	59	9			2	
Second " "	85	18			1	
Third and Fourth German Mission	35	5				
Plaquemine	27	1	55	8		
Bayou Gros Tete	22	18	50	30		
Lafourche and Bayou Black	41	10	540	56	1	
	1153	176	1985	473	17	8

	White		Colored		Local Pr'chers.	
	MEM.	PROB.	MEM.	PROB.	WHITE.	COL'D.
Numbers brought forward	1153	176	1985	473	17	8
OPELOUSAS DISTRICT.						
Franklin and Pattersonville	134	34	150		2	
Teche Mission	130	130				
New Iberia	290	42	87	14	2	
Opelousas Circuit and Mission	159	42	193		2	
Chicot	168	5	40	14	3	
Alexandria	54		113			
North Rapides Circuit and Mission	99	81	113	67		
Harrisonburg	247	39				
Calcasieu	7	88	1	19		
Columbia Circuit	50	60		76		
	1338	521	697	190	9	
SHREVEPORT DISTRICT.						
Shreveport	52		75			
Caddo	250	27	75	12	5	
Mansfield	87	20			1	
Pleasant Hill	75	40	160			
Natchitoches Circuit	138	234	19	22	6	
Sparta Circuit	350	148	94	24		
Red River Circuit	120	18	66		4	
Red River Mission		7	133	47		
North Bossier	100	48	50	14	1	
	1172	542	672	119	17	
OUACHITA DISTRICT.						
Minden Circuit	229	59	112		2	
Homer Circuit	335	34	82		9	
Farmerville	395	63	109		5	
Monroe and Trenton, and Mission	39	7	78	54	1	
Ouachita Circuit	357	98		29	6	
Bastrop	128	20	45	140	4	
Jackson	217	13	25		11	
Dugdemona	119	47	4	3	6	
Winfield Mission	45	20				
	1864	361	455	226	44	
LAKE PROVIDENCE DISTRICT.						
Lake Providence and Bunch's Bend	62	12	119		1	
Swan Lake and Pecan Grove	41	21	32	13	2	
Carroll Colored Mission			34			
Monticello and Floyd	140	50			1	
Bayou Macon	104	93	11	19	2	
Bœuf River Circuit	82	64		24	3	
Bœuf Prairie	219	38	64		5	
Waterproof and Tensas	129	15	90	15	1	
Tensas Colored Mission			378	114		
Trinity Circuit	145	17	75	19	2	
St. Joseph and W. Chapel	59	3			1	
Mounds Bayou and B. Vidal	16	10	63	4		
Richmond	36	4	64	24	1	
Madison Colored Mission			57			
	1033	327	987	232	19	
Grand Total	6560	1927	4796	1240	106	8
Increase this year				125	16	
Decrease this year	58	37	50			7
NOTE.—The Committee suppose that from the great falling off in the following Circuits there must have been a mistake in the reports of either last year or this :						
Last year Franklin and Pattersonville	267		450			
This year do. do.	130	34	150			
Last year Jackson Circuit	496	93	90	11		
This year " "	217	13	25			
Last year Homer Circuit	553	133	163			
This year do do	335	34	82			

MINISTERIAL SUPPORT.

Q. 12.—What amounts are necessary to meet the CLAIMS of the Superannuated Preachers, and the widows and orphans of Preachers, and to make up deficiencies of those Preachers who have not obtained Disciplinary allowance?

A.—For Superannuates	$340 00	
" Widows and Orphans	980 00	
		$1320 00

Q. 13.—What amount of Widows and Orphans per cent. has been collected?

ANSWER:

New Orleans District	$ 83 85	
Carondelet Street	90 00	
Felicity Street	120 00	
Moreau Street	66 00	
Wesley, Soule, and Winans	109 50	
First and Fourth German Mission	42 00	
Second " "	30 00	
Third " "	27 50	
New Orleans Circuit	32 00	
Baton Rouge	16 50	
Plaquemine	18 00	
Gros Tete	25 00	
Thibodeaux	20 00	
Lafourche and B. Black	26 25	
Assistant Preacher do	34 98	
Atchafalaya	11 50	
Tract Agent	60 00	
		713 08
Opelousas District	37 50	
Franklin and Pattersonville	44 55	
Bayou Teche Mission	37 50	
New Iberia Circuit	34 70	
Chicot Circuit	22 80	
Alexandria		
North Rapides	20 73	
" A. P.	14 24	
Harrisonburg	12 80	
Columbia	12 50	
Calcasieu	12 30	
Opelousas	34 00	
St. Landry Colored Mission	8 30	
		291 92
Amount carried over		$1005 00

Amount brought forward		$1005 00
Shreveport District	28 30	
Shreveport	10 50	
Caddo	18 60	
" A. P.	30 00	
Mansfield	83 45	
Pleasant Hill	13 25	
Natchitoches	... ..	
Sparta Circuit	20 36	
Red River	42 00	
North Bossier	24 00	
* President Mansfield F. College	... ..	
Agent " " "	.. ..	
		270 46
Ouachita District	22 85	
Minden	50 00	
Homer	25 50	
Farmerville	25 50	
Monroe and Trenton	45 00	
Ouachita	30 00	
Bastrop Circuit	45 25	
Jackson	23 40	
Dugdemona	8 20	
Agent Homer Col.	3 95	
Winfield Mission	26 45	
		306 10
Lake Providence District	52 00	
Lake Providence and B. Bend	59 05	
Swan Lake and P. Grove	60 30	
Carrol Mission	.. ..	
Monticello	.. ..	
Bayou Macon	22 00	
Bœuff River	18 00	
Bœuff Prairie	46 35	
Madison Colored Mission	15 00	
Waterproof	68 40	
Tensas Colored Mission, A. P.	31 11	
" " " P. C.	18 50	
Trinity	37 00	
St. Joseph and W. Chapel	46 00	
Richmond	30 00	
Mound Bayou	11 95	
		515 66
Total Amount (according to figures) is $2,097 22; but the total amount reported by the Committee as cash received, is		$2169 05

* There was a report, but the amount does not appear in the Report of the Chairman of Committee on Ministerial support.

Q. 14.—How has the foregoing sum been applied?

ANSWER:

TO SUPERANNUATES.

Thomas Samford		340 00

TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS.

Widow of Brother Page	150 00	
" " " Stevenson	150 00	
" and Orphan of Brother Foster	175 00	
" " " " " Turnley	305 00	
Orphans of Brother Guice	80 00	
" " " Trostrick	40 00	
" " " Benton	40 00	
" " " Tinder	40 00	
		980 00
		$1320 00

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION.

To Orphan of Brother Benton	100 00	
Remainder, which was ordered to be reserved for payment in part of claimants next year—(in hands of Chairman)	749 05	
		849 05
		$2169 05

ORPHANS AND WIDOWS' PER CENT.

Resolved, That at this session the Conference will estimate for the year following what amount will be needed to provide for the support of Superannuates, Widows, and Orphans, and what per centage that amount is of the sum of the entire salaries of the members of the Conference.

Resolved, That the Conference will, at its next sesssion, collect of each preacher such a per cent. upon his entire *receipts* for the year.

Resolved, That the Stewards of circuits and stations are hereby requested to add such a per cent, to the salary of each preacher and provide for it accordingly.

Resolved, That those works which may be supplied be requested to collect in the same manner the same per centage upon the whole amount of their actual receipts, and send up to the next session of the Conference.

Resolved, That the Conference declare THE WIDOWS AND ORPHANS PER CENT. for 1858 TO BE THREE PER CENT.

Resolved, That the Preachers who have failed to pay their Widows and Orphans per cent. be requested to send or bring up the amount to the next Conference.

Resolved, That those members of this Conference who may, at any time, be appointed to institutions of learning, or special agencies, be required to pay *the Widows and Orphans per cent.* upon their actual *receipts.*

Resolved, That the Preachers, in making their reports of claims and receipts, be required, in case of deficiency, to make a pro rata division of the amount received between quarterage and table expenses, but at the same time, that the Stewards of the Conference be instructed not to make any appropriation to make up the deficiency of any effective preacher until the claims of the worn out Preachers, and Widows, and Orphans have been met.

Resolved, That whenever, in the judgment of the Preacher of a Circuit or Station, it is advisable to do so, he shall take a collection for the purpose of obtaining the full amount of the per cent. for which he is responsible.

TOTAL ALLOWANCE AND TOTAL RECEIPTS.

		Allowance.	Receipts.
New Orleans District	J. C. Keener	$1945 00	$1397 66
Carondelet Street	L. Parker	1500 00	1500 00
Felicity Street	J. B. Walker	2000 00	2000 00
Moreau Street	J. W. Johnson	1440 00	1243 00
Wesley, Soule, and Winans	H. N. McTyeire	1850 00	1826 00
First and Fourth German Mission	J. M. Hofer	700 00	700 00
Second German Mission	J. Pauley	500 00	500 00
Third German Mission	G. Bussmann	450 00	450 00
New Orleans Circuit	B. F. Alexander	600 00	500 00
Baton Rouge	S. B. Suratt	450 00	275 00
Plaquemine	T. B. White	571 00	300 00
Gros Téte	S. Haws	400 00	400 00
Thibodeaux	J. Landrum	540 00	330 30
Lafourche and B. Black	T. L. Beard	1560 00	412 50
" " "	J. Fulton	300 00	548 12
Atchafalaya	D. M. K. Collins	260 00	195 41
Tract Agent	R. J. Harp	1000 00	1000 00
Opelousas District	J. A. Ivey	800 00	625 00
Franklin and Pattersonville	S. J. Davies	1000 00	742 95
Bayou Teche Mission	J. T. Fountain	1000 00	625 00
New Iberia Circuit	J. H. Waters	636 00	578 00
Chicot	H. Avery	800 00	380 00
Alexandria	C. J. Halberg		
North Rapides	W. D. Stayton	700 00	345 50
" "	U. Whatly	700 00	237 26
Harrisonburg	C. W. Hodge	500 00	214 50
Columbia	W. A. Manly	550 00	208 00
Calcasieu	R. Parvin	205 00	205 00
St. Landry Mission	Supplied	250 00	138 40
Opelousas	S. J. Hawkins	742 00	572 32
Shreveport District	R. Randle	900 00	502 90
Shreveport	J. L. Chapman	.. ..	180 00
Caddo	T. M. Penick	310 00	310 00
"	F. T. Rawson	525 00	500 00
Mansfield	E. D. Pitts	2500 00	1474 85
Pleasant Hill	C. W. Coursey	250 00	220 00
Natchitoches	D S. McBride	.. ..	.. ..
Sparta	W. A. Smyth	700 00	339 35
Red River	J. L. Wright	700 00	700 00
North Bossier	E. A. Stevenson	800 00	400 00
President M. F. College		.. ..	.. ..
Agent M. F. College		.. ..	.. ..
Ouachita District	R. R. Alexander	400 00	380 70
Minden	A. E. Goodwyn	823 25	823 25
Homer	D. S. Watkins	821 00	425 00
Farmerville	B. C. Stegall	550 00	425 00
Monroe and Trenton	R. Trippett	750 00	750 00
Ouachita	D. P. Cullen	625 00	500 00
Bastrop	John Pipes	950 00	800 00
Jackson	R M. Crowson	600 00	413 50
Dugdemona	T. McClendon	170 00	137 00
Agent Homer College	J. Sanders	1000 00	65 00
Winfield Mission	S. J. Graves	600 00	441 55
Lake Providence District	L. A. Reed	1500 00	927 00
Swan Lake	W. G. McGaughey	1286 00	1005 00
Carroll Colored Mission	W. R. Davis		
Monticello	D. Kinnear		
Bayou Macon	J. F. Scurlock	447 00	366 85
Bœuff River	J. H. Boult		380 00
Bœuff Prairie	U. Riley	1000 00	772 05
Madison Colored Mission	Supplied		250 00
Waterproof	B. F. White	1140 00	1140 00
Tensas Colored Mission	T. J. Upton	750 00	518 00
" " "	E. W. Griswold	450 00	307 85
Trinity	J. C. Pitts	850 00	647 00
St. Joseph and W. Chapel	T. J. Lacy	1100 00	800 00
Richmond	P. M. Goodwyn	1000 00	530 00
Mound Bayou	J. A. Miller	248 10	199 25

EDUCATION.

Q. 15.—What is the action of the Conference on the cause of education ?

A.—The Report of the Committee on Education was adopted as follows :—

In no section of the bounds of the Methodist Church is the subject of Education of perhaps as much importance as within the bounds of the Louisiana Conference. In other sections the contest is between Christianity and sin undisguised—in this it is between Christianity pure and Christianity corrupt. There the unconverted have been taught to know their duty, in many districts here they have not. To have success the Gospel must have leverage. Our hope of success is in our literary institutions. To these, therefore, we cannot attach too much importance. A review of their history for the past year encourages us to hope that our cherished desire will be accomplished. Throughout the entire Conference our Schools and Colleges evidence prosperity, increasing in their number and their patronage, as will be seen by the reports which follows :—

CENTENARY COLLEGE.

From the report of the President and the Visiting Committee we glean the following :—

That this Institution, under the joint patronage of the Mississippi and Louisiana Conference was never in a more satisfactory condition. The members in College proper, is about the same as heretofore—a larger proportion taking the regular course—proceeds of tuition larger than at any previous time, and discipline of the institution better than at any time heretofore. We are pleased to hear that the board of Trustees and joint board of Visitors are carrying out the implied contract between this and the Mississippi Conference, of keeping an equal number in both posts of the joint board representing each Conference.

Your Committee respectfully beg leave to submit the following resolution :—

Resolved, That we continue to have unfaltering confidence in the capability of the faculty of Centenary College of Louisiana, to perform the duties of their respective professorships, and that we will continue to recommend said College to our people, and that we will use our influence whenever practicable to increase the number of students in the college.

MANSFIELD FEMALE COLLEGE.

A lengthy and able report of the condition of this Institution represents it to be in a flourishing and satisfactory state.

It now stands upon a more solid basis than at any previous period. With the new and substantial College building completed and occupied, an efficient and able corps of teachers, a large and constantly increasing number of pupils, now nnmbering one hundred, it bids fair to become an ornament to the State, and a means of great good, religiously and socially, as well as intellectually.

The following gentlemen have been recommended for election for members of the Institution for the present year, viz :—

William Crosby, R. T. Gibbs, H. L. Moss, H. Slone, L. Phillips, H. J. Phillips, W. H. Terrell, J. D. Wemple, J. J. Greening, Jno. L. Scales, Jones Persons, A. M. Campbell, Geo. R. Draughan, J. W. McElroy, J. Wilder, Jno. C. Burrows, James H. Mumford, James West, J. C. Porter, S. H. Rives, Geo. C. Burns, R. T. Johnson, H. Phillips, and B. W. Pearson.

The following resolutions are respectfully submitted:—

Resolved, That we recommend to the presiding Bishop of the Conference to re-appoint the Rev. Dr. H. C. Thweatt to the Presidency of the Mansfield Female College.

Resolved, That we will welcome the President or whoever may be appointed by the Bishop, to solicit aid in behalf of the Institution, and we will aid him in the objects of his Mission.

Resolved, That we recommend the Bishop to re-appoint the Rev. E. D. Pitts, to a Professorship in the said College.

Resolved, That we will do all in our power to increase the patronage of Mansfield Female College.

HOMER COLLEGE.

We have a favorable report in writing from the President of the Board of Trustees, and verbally from Professor Stacey of this Institution. It is daily growing in importance and usefulness, and promises much more: and although yet in its infancy, already numbers ninety pupils or more. We gather from the report that it is expected the College building, now under way, will be completed during the present year, and that the corps of teachers, now ample, will keep pace with the rapidly growing wants of this promising school.

The resolutions herewith touching this school, we respectfully submit:—

Resolved, That D. Henry Dyer, and John H. Cunningham, be elected Trustees of Homer College, to fill the vacancies occasioned by the death of Rev. James T. Wafer, and E. J. H. Jones.

Resolved, That we recommend the appointment of an agent for said College for the ensuing year.

Resolved, That in as much as the Trustees of Homer College are in correspondence with Rev. James E. Cobb, in reference to the Presidency of said College, that should they succeed in securing his services, we approve of his appointment to that position.

Resolved, That we will continue our fostering care over Homer College, and that we recommend it to the patronage of our people.

BATON ROUGE MALE COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE.

This flourishing institute has had unparalleled success. Its condition is good. The principal, Professor Magruder, is well known and the teachers are reliable.

We submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Baton Rouge Male Institute receive our cordial support and best wishes for success.

BATON ROUGE FEMALE SEMINARY.

From this useful school we have a flattering report. The last session closed under more favorable auspices than ever before, and its present prospects never promised more. The well-known reputation of the able principal, Mrs. Read, is rapidly increasing. The Board of Teachers would do credit to any Institution.

The following resolution we respectfully submit:

Resolved, That we will cordially recommend the Baton Rouge Female Seminary to the patronage of our people.

COLLEGE AT PLEASANT HILL, LOUISIANA.

Whereas certain citizens of De Soto Parish have subscribed the liberal sum of $50,000 for the purpose of endowing a College to be located at Pleasant Hill, and to be under the control of the Louisiana Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and have made an offer of the said subscription to this Conference:

Resolved, That we do hereby accept of the offer to the Conference, and adopt the said College as an Institution of this Conference.

Resolved, That J. C. Keener, H. N. McTyeire, L. Parker, R. Randle, H. C. Thweatt and E. D. Pitts, be appointed upon the part of this Conference to confer with the Board of Trustees of Pierce and

PAINE College, to draft a charter of said College, and to obtain an act of incorporation for it.

Resolved, That John S. Childers. John Jordon, J. M. Gibbs, Wm. F. Howell, D. A. Blackshear, A. G. Jordon, H. Phillips, R. Rufus King, B. H. Chapman, S. J. Davies, R. Trippett, B. F. White, H. N. McTyeire, P. M. Goodwyn, R. Randle, J. C. Keener, J. B. Walker, L. Parker, H. C. Thweatt, S. B. Suratt, E. D. Pitts, Edward Davis, R. A. L. McCurdy, W. D. Aikins, be and hereby are, constituted the Board of Trustees of said College.

Resolved, That the said Trustees and Committee shall determine what chairs in the said Institution shall be first endowed, and as soon as they deem it practicable shall endow a Biblical Professorship of said College for the purpose of affording to such young men as may be designated by the Louisiana Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, educational facilities.

Resolved, That the said Committee and Trustees procure, if it be practicable, in or about the site of the said College, a section of land, and obtain municipal control over the neighboring territory.

Resolved, That the said Committee and Trustees be instructed to convert the said subscription into promissory notes.

Resolved, That the Bishop be requested to appoint an agent for the purpose of completing the endowment of said College.

MISCELLANEOUS RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, J. M. Morrar, J. J. Bryan, William Lackey, R. M. Kennon. David Lawrence, J. D. Watkins, Jesse Smith, Rev. R. Randle, Rev. J. Sanders, Q. Johnson, J. C. Blackman, Rev. D. S. Watkins, C. G. Young, E. P. Harris, B. W. Pearce and A. P. King, be appointed Trustees of *Mahala* College at Minden.

Resolved, That we recommend the appointment of a Committee to take into consideration and confer with the citizens of Baton Rouge as to the expediency of establishing a Female College or Seminary in that city, to be under the control of this Conference, and that said Committee be empowered to proceed in any movement which they may deem expedient, and report to this body at its next session.

Resolved, That J. C. Keener, R. J. Harp, S. B. Suratt, William H. Crenshaw, and Dr. Day, be appointed upon the Committee.

Resolved, That Linus Parker be appointed Delegate to the next Southern Educational Convention.

Respectfully submitted,

S. B. SURATT, *Chairman.*

SABBATH SCHOOLS.

Q. 16.—What is the action of Conference on Sabbath Schools.

A.—The following Report and Resolutions of the Committee on Sunday Schools, was adopted:

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE

SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT.

The reports of the several stations and circuits so far as furnished, when summed up exhibits the following aggregate:—65 schools, 460 officers and Teachers, 2969 children, 19,319 volumes in Library, 1358 visitors taken, $1,711 94, and 6 Juvenile Missionary Society.

These figures show an *increase* in all departments of the Sunday School enterprise within the bounds of our Conference, except in the item of money raised for Sunday School purposes—to wit: an increase of 9 schools, of 18 officers and Teachers, of 197 children, of 408 volumes in Library, of 209 visitors taken, and a *decrease* of $247 79, in the amount raised for Sabbath School purposes.

Although your Committee regret that these statistics do not exhibit a larger increase—they are glad to note and report any advance in the interest of this enterprize, and hope that even this small success will incite to more abundant labors in this department of Christian usefulness.

The Sabbath School cause with each passing year, continues to demonstrate its utility and importance as one of the first and most efficient instrumentalities of the age, for the evangelization and civilization of the on-coming generation; but the price and guarantee of its success is ceaseless diligence. We must preach about it, we must write about it, we must give to it, labor in it, and above all pray fervently for it; only thus can the present ground be retained—only thus can our borders be extended.

There are within the limits of our National Territory, 6,500,000 children, between the ages of five and fifteen years. Only 3,000,000 of these are under Sabbath School Institutions: perhaps a half million more are under religious training at home, leaving 3,000,000 without any special religious instruction at all. To the enlightened and religious mind this is an awful and alarming fact; for though it does not

fix the doom, it does indicate the probable destiny of three millions of immortal minds. There are in all our cities, towns and rural neighborhoods, scores, and hundreds of children who attend no Sabbath School, and to whom the day of holy rest comes only as a day of vicious idleness—a carnival of crime. Such facts should awaken our slumbering zeal, and stir us to a holy activity.

We are gratified to know that those whose official duty it is to supervise our publishing interest, are laboring with commendable diligence to meet the needs of the Church and the children.

Numerous and well adapted books are teeming from the Press, like leaves from the tree of life, for the healing of the Nations.

Let the rich and the liberal-minded among us devise liberal things, and devote of their abundance a portion to the buying and donating Sabbath School Libraries, to poor and destitute neighborhoods. In no way can small sums of $20 and a $100 be invested with the likelihood of imparting more pleasure, or doing more permanent good.

The success with which the pious zeal of the Church has been crowned in this department of her labors, is the strongest incentive that can be presented for persevering and increased exertions in this direction. Perhaps one-third or more of the tens of thousands of converts that annually press into the courts of Zion, are from among the Sabbath School children. It was recently published, that of the 507 students at six Theological Institutions studying for the Ministry, 313 were instructed in Sabbath School, and the average age of their conversion to God was 16 years.

There are perhaps in the Sabbath Schools of the various divisions of Protestant Christendom, domestic and Missionary, some 6,000,000 Sabbath School children, of whom some 1,300,000 are in the various branches of the Methodist Division of Zion.

The gathering together of these six millions of children for religious instruction, we regard as one of the most illustrious achievements of the Church in the bright catalogue of her triumphs, and a glorious prophecy of the near approach of millennial glory, when all Zion's children shall be taught of the Lord.

J. B. WALKER,
Chairman.

SUNDAY SCHOOL STATISTICS.

NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT.	No. of Schools.	No. of Officers and Teachers.	No. of Children.	No. of Vols. in Library.	No. of Visitors.	Amount of Money Collected.	No. of Juvenile Mis. Societies.
Carondelet Street	1	43	231	1918	175	$468 16	1
Felicity Street	2	26	308	150	150	180 00	1
Moreau Street	1	32	250	1200	150	309 23	1
Wesley, Soule and Winans	3		80			5 00	
First German Mission	1	18	65	150		20 00	1
Second " "	2	27	150	392	50	50 00	2
Third and Fourth German Mission	2	16	65			28 50	
New Orleans Circuit	5	45	350	1265	350	213 05	
Baton Rouge	1	10	100	300		10 00	
Plaquemine				200			
Gross Tete	2	11	20	450	25	15 00	
Thibodaux	1	10	30	400		15 00	
Lafourche and Bayou Black	1	6	20	200		15 00	
Atchafalaya	1	1	15	130	2	10 00	
	23	245	1674	8005	902	$1338 94	6
OPELOUSAS DISTRICT.							
Franklin and Pattersonville	2	20	119	400		35 00	
New Iberia Circuit	3	21	100	900	70	35 00	
Opelousas	2	9	27	300	8		
Chicot Circuit	1	6	30	200			
Alexandria	3		75	250		23 00	1
North Rapides							
Harrisonburg Circuit							
Columbia Circuit							
	11	56	341	2050	78	$93 00	1
SHREVEPORT CIRCUIT.							
Shreveport							
Caddo Circuit							
Mansfield	1	13	70	659	129	150 00	
Pleasant Hill							
Natchitoches Circuit							
Sparta Circuit	4	35	180	300	101	12 00	
Red River Circuit	1	5	20	150		10 00	
North Bossier							
	6	53	270	1109	230	$172 00	
OUACHITA DISTRICT.							
Minden Circuit	1	3	20	100			
Homer Circuit				100			
Farmerville Circuit	3		112		12		
Monroe and Trenton					20		
Ouachita Circuit	5	24	218	1155	2	33 00	
Bastrop Circuit							
Jackson Circuit	2	8	60	100			
Dugdemona Circuit	2	8	32	110	2		
	13	43	442	1565	36	$33 00	
LAKE PROVIDENCE DISTRICT.							
Lake Providence	1	12	40	1000		6 00	
Swan Lake and Pecan Grove	1	1		700			
Monticello and Floyd							
Bayou Macon	1	5	18	150			
Bœuf River Circuit							
Bœuff Prairie Circuit							
Waterproof and Tensas Circuit	2	12	50	4000	50	25 00	
Trinity Circuit	5	26	84	750	12	50 00	
Mt. Bayou and Bayou Vidal							
St. Joseph's and Wesley	2	7	30				
Richmond Circuit							
Tensas Colored Mission					40		
	12	63	222	6600	102	$81 00	
Grand Total	65	460	2949	19329	1348	$1717 94	8

CHURCH PUBLICATIONS.

Q. 17.—What is the action of the Conference relative to Church Publications?

A.—The following Report of the Committee on Church Publications was adopted.

The Committee on Church Publications submit that these interests, general and particular, have received their consideration. We would in especial call the attention of our preachers to the interest of the Publishing House, and the importance of relieving the agents of the large stock now accumulated on their hands by increased exertions on our part in ordering and selling the books. The support of the House, as well as the welfare and prosperity of the church, demand it. We would urge upon every preacher the duty of doing something in the circulation of our standard denominational literature. It devolves upon us all, and all must lend a helping hand. As Christians, as Methodists, as Methodist preachers, and as members of the Louisiana Conference, we are resolved to sustain the Publishing House at Nashville, and to see to it that our books and periodicals have a wider dissemination. We ask the special attention of our brethren to the importance of spreading our standard works—the heavier doctrinal and theological books. We have of late fallen behind in the diffusion of these. It is essential to the enlightened piety of the church, and to her fidelity to the distinctive features of Wesleyan and Arminian doctrines, that the immortal productions of Wesley, Fletcher, Watson, Clark and others, be diffused amongst the people; they cannot be superceded by our periodicals; they are the bone and sinew of a robust spirituality, and contribute largely to the vigorous life and permanent progress of the Church. Let them be carried everywhere; let every Methodist community be supplied, and let every house have them. It is for our preachers to say let there be light—even the light of the sun rather than the meteoric glare and star light of an ephemeral and perishable literature. We are glad to state that your agent, appointed to collect funds for the procurement of a Methodist Depository at New Orleans, during the past year, has secured nearly the sum of sixteen thousand dollars. We are confident that the services of an agent for another year will suffice to obtain the amount necessary for the completion of the enterprise. When this is done, Methodism in the Southwest will occupy an impregnable position.

We herein present the annual statement of the Publishing Committee of the New Orleans Christian Advocate :

REPORT OF PUB. COM. OF NEW ORLEANS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE.

The expenses of publication for the year ending November 1st, 1857, have been	$9,723 79
Amount received for subscriptions	9,350 52
Amount for advertising during the year	2,076 00

The number of subscribers, exclusive of agents and exchanges, is 5,800.

A careful comparison of this statement will show a decided improvement in the condition of the paper. We have received one thousand additional subscribers during the year, and have received from subscriptions $1,152 73 more than was received from the same source during the previous year. It will be seen that the total receipts exceed the expenditures $1,702 73-100 ; but this excess of receipts over expenditures is owing to the amount received for advertising. The collections from subscriptions alone are $373 27-100 less than the expenses of the year, and the amount still due from subscribers is $2,250. While the evidences of improvement are highly encouraging, and will not fail to gratify the friends of the paper, there are still abundant incentives to greater exertion in its support. The paper should be supported by its subscriptions, and be relieved from even a partial dependence upon its advertising list. Besides, it is the wish of the Committee to enlarge the paper, and secure for it such other improvements as shall make it a journal of unequaled excellence in all that pertains to the diffusion of a sound religious literature. These much desired ends can only be secured by increased and sustained exertion on the part of the agents. To these brethren we tender our sincere thanks for the interest which they have hitherto manifested, and by the continuance of their coöperation in the support of an enterprise that is alike dear to every friend of Truth and Methodism in the South-West.

New Orleans, November 1, 1857.

The following resolutions are recommended for your adoption :

1. *Resolved*, That we feel it our duty to circulate our general publications, both by taking them ourselves and by recommending them to others.

2. *Resolved*, That the Louisiana Conference do highly approve of the able manner in which Dr. Doggett has edited the S. M. Q. Review ; but, that in view of the financial exhibit of the agents, we recommend the General Conference to unite the office of Editor of the Q. Review and Book Editor.

3. *Resolved*, That this Conference highly approve of the ability and taste with which the Home Circle has been edited. That we will endeavor to obtain subscribers for it in every home within our bounds; and that we suggest to the book agents, that in its literary merits, and the place it is designed to fill in our church publications, it is worthy of a more liberal expenditure, for material and ornament, and we recommend that this be done.

4. *Resolved*, That we regard the New Orleans Christian Advocate as an organ of our Conference, fully worthy of our confidence and approval; and that, as a medium for disseminating religious information, and for the defence of our doctrines and usages, it is so much a necessity as to command our hearty support.

Resolved, That we will endeavor to increase the present subscription list of 5,800 to 7,000, by the first of May next.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

LINUS PARKER,
Chairman of Committee on Publications.

TRACTS.

Q. 18.—What is the action of the Conference on the Tract Cause?

A.—As follows:

The following persons were elected officers of the Conference Tract Society, for 1858:

OFFICERS.

Rev. R. J. Harp, President.	W. H. Foster, Esq., Secretary.
" S. J. Davies, Vice President.	Rev. Linus Parker, Treasurer.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 1858.

Rev. J. B. Walker,	Wm. S. Mount, New Orleans.
" B. F. White,	Wm. H. Dameron, "
" A. B. Fly,	A. J. Tully, "
" T. L. Beard,	W. R. Stuart, "
" J. C. Keener,	R. L. Robertson, "
" H. N. McTyeire.	F. L. Mead, Thibodeaux.

Constitution of the Tract Society of the Louisiana Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Article I. The Society shall be known as "The Tract Society of the Louisiana Conference."

Art. II. It shall be auxiliary to the Tract Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, whose purposes it shall promote, by aiding its funds, and by colportage or otherwise circulating the publications which receive its sanction.

Art. III. Any person may become a member of this Society by the payment of One Dollar per annum, or a member for life by the payment of Ten Dollars at any one time. Life-members shall be entitled to receive Tracts, at any one time, to the amount of one-half the sum paid by them.

Art. IV. The business of the Society shall be conducted by a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and twelve Directors, ministers or laymen—who shall constitute a Board of Managers, any five of whom shall be a quorum.

Art. V. The Board shall meet during the session of the Conference to fix the time and place, and to make other arrangements for the annual meeting of the Society.

Art. VI. At the annual meeting of the Society, the Annual Report of the Secretary shall be submitted, also that of the Treasurer, duly certified; annual subscriptions shall be renewed, and officers elected for the ensuing year.

Art. VII. This Constitution shall not be altered but by a majority of the Society present and voting for the proposed alteration.

The following form of Constitution was recommended to Auxiliary Societies:

Constitution of the Tract Society of the Quarterly Conference of ———

Article I. This Society shall be known as "The Tract Society of the Quarterly Conference of ———."

Art. II. It shall be auxiliary to the Tract Society of the Louisiana Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, whose purposes it shall promote, by aiding its funds, and by circulating the publications which receive the sanction of the Tract Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Art. III. Any person may become a member of this Society by the payment of any amount in aid of its funds.

Art. IV. The business of the Society shall be conducted by a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and five Directors, who shall constitute a Board of Managers, four of whom shall be a quorum.

Art. V. The annual meeting of the Society shall be held at such a time and place as the Board of Managers shall designate. At this meeting the Secretary shall present the Annual Report of the Proceedings of the Society, and the Treasurer shall report the condition of the Treasury. Abstracts of these reports shall be forwarded to

the Tract Society, of the Annual Conference, to which this Society is auxiliary.

ART. VI. This Constitution shall not be altered but by a majority of the members of the Society present and voting on the subject, at any annual or special meeting of the Society.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER.

			DR.
February,	1858.—	Contribution of Members at Mansfield..	$53 00
"	"	Collections from various sources during the year.....	79 85
"	"	Contribution by H. W. Peebles.....	50 00
"	"	Amount collected at Con. Anniversary..	545 05
			$727 90

			CR.
February,	1858.—	By amount expended in disseminating Tracts.....	$67 50
"	"	Amount paid to Secretary of Tract Society of M. E. Church, South.....	595 05
"	"	By Amount paid to R. J. Harp.....	65 35
			$727 90

Local Tract Society	Collections.....	138 05
" " "	Disbursements	138 05

56,500 pages of Tracts were distributed during the year.

The following Resolutions were reported by the Committee on the Tract cause, and adopted by the Conference:

Resolved, That we respectfully request the Bishop presiding to appoint an agent to travel through the bounds of our Conference and labor for the Tract cause.

Resolved, That whereas the dissemination of the useful knowledge contained in our Literature is necessary to eradicate superstition, forestall error, invigorate the judgment and enlighten the conscience; and whereas the various errors, isms, and lax notions of community in many portions of our country, and the facility with which the people generally are humbugged call for action in some direction which will afford an antidote to these evils; and in as much the Tract Society affords the best and most effective means of resisting evil, of diffusing truth, and opposing falsehood; therefore

Resolved, That we will renew our efforts to enlighten our own people by the circulation of our own books and Tracts all over these lands.

Resolved, That we request each Presiding Elder to use his influence and make all suitable efforts to organize local Tract Societies, and extend the circulation of Tracts and Books in his District.

Resolved, That each preacher be required to raise a subscription or collection at each of his appointments, at some time during the year.

Resolved, That it is a shame to our Church that our facilities for getting the books of our own Catalogue in the City of New Orleans (our principal commercial city) are more limited than those of the principal denominations of the country, and we will therefore use our most assidious efforts to secure subscriptions for the Southern Methodist Book Depot in New Orleans.

THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, IN LAY SESSION.

Resolved, 1. That the Louisiana Annual Conference earnestly desires the co-operation of brethren, members of the M. E. Church, South, within the bounds of the Conference, to advance the several benevolent and financial interests which have heretofore been under the sole care of the Conference.

2. That it hereby pressingly invites each of the Quarterly Meeting Conferences within its bounds to select some one gentleman, a member of the Church, to attend at the place where the next Annual Conference shall meet, (New Orleans) to give aid and share in the Committee action of the Conference upon the cause of Missions—the cause of Education—the Sabbath School cause—the Church Publications—the Support of the Ministry and Temperance cause.

3. That the Conference shall now appoint, from its members, the Chairman of the several Committees on the aforesaid benevolent interests, who willl be expected to prepare for, during the year, a report for the various interests they represent, *excepting* the Committee on Missions, which shall meet and act with the Board of Managers on the first day of the meeting of the Conference.

4. That upon each afternoon of the days on which the Conference shall meet, the Conference shall resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, upon some one of the aforesaid benevolent causes; and shall, together with the Committee from the Quarterly Meeting Conferences, constitute the Committee on Education—the Committee on Church

Publications—the Committee on Sunday Schools—the Committee on Missions—the Committee on Ministerial Support, and the Committee on Temperance. The aforesaid Chairman shall preside, and shall report, upon rising, to the President of the Conference, the action of the Committee of the Whole, in a written Report.

5. That the Preachers in charge of New Orleans be requested to make provision for the entertainment of the Committee-men of the Quarterly Conference during the next Conference Session.

6. That the following be the Chairmen of the several Committees for the next Conference:

Chairman of the Committee on Missions, Joel Sanders, President of the Missionary Society.

Chairman of Committee on Sunday Schools, J. B. Walker.
" " " " Education, S. B. Suratt.
" " " " Church Publications, Linus Parker.
" " " " Ministerial Support, J. Pipes.
" " " " Temperance, N. A. Cravens.
" " " " Tracts, R. J. Harp, Pres't Tract Society.
" " " " Bible cause, B. F. White.

Resolved, That the rules regulating the Committee of the Whole in Lay Session shall differ from the ordinary rules of a Committee of the Whole in the following:

1. It shall elect its own Secretary.

2. It may appoint sub-Committees upon the subject-matter of the Committee.

3. It may limit discussion.

4. It may, upon motion, by changing the Chairman, go into the consideration of another subject without rising.

5. It may put the previons question.

[And in this also; that the Conference does not resume its session immediately upon the rising of the Committee, but meets at its usual hour, and then the Chairman of Committee makes report.—*Publishing Committee.*]

The following Lay-Committee-men were present, and took their seats in the Committee of the Whole, in Lay session :

Cyrus Thompson, Carondelet street, New Orleans.
Col. A. P. King, Sparta Circuit.
David Lawrence, Minden Circuit.
Dr. A. D. Gaskill, Farmerville.
Z. Preston, Waterproof.
Rev. W. E. Dotey, Caddo.
John Jordan, Chappell Hill.
A. M. Campbell, Mansfield.

PREACHERS' FUND SOCIETY.

J. C. KEENER, TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT WITH
THE PREACHERS' FUND SOCIETY OF THE LOUISIANA CONFERENCE.

1858, Feb. 8. DR.

To cash on hand at last report	$ 61	74
To note of D. O. Shattuck, for $240, with various credits, and interest on $139 20 from Dec. 7, 1843, (14 years and 2 months.)	296	87
To note of J. Sanders, for $60, with interest from Dec. 18, 1844, (13 years & 1 1-2 m'hs)	123	00
To note of R. M. Crowson, for $15, with interest from Dec. 18, 1845, (12 years & 1 1-2 mhs)	29	55
To due bill of W.R.Gober, for $91, with interest from July 26, 1851, (6 years & 6 1-2 m'hs.)	138	62
To due bill of R. Spencer, for $80, with interest from July 26, 1855	99	38
To amount of balance due on note of B. A. Houghton ; balance $897 83, with interest from Feb. 10, 1857, (hands of W.L.Knox.)	978	62
To note of J. H. Guerding, President, for $800, with interest from March 18, 1856.	922	63
To note of C. J. Hallburg, for $100, with interest from Feb. 10, 1857	108	00
To note of D. O. Shattuck, for $52, with interest from Jan. 7, 1848, (10 years & 1 m'h)	93	90
To amount due from R. Stewart, (note never in my hand) for $213 12, with int. from Jan. 1, '51	334	40
To cash from notes of J. Fulton, paid, ($80, with interest from Jan. 1, 1856.)	92	80
		$3279 65

1858, Feb. 8. CR.

By note of D. O. Shattuck, with interest	$296	87
" " " " " " " "	93	90
" " " J. Sanders, " "	123	00
" " " R. M. Crowson, " "	29	55
" due bill of W. R. Gober, " "	138	62
" " " " R. Spencer, " "	99	38
" balance due on note of B. A. Houghton, with interest	978	62
" note of J. H. Guerding, President, with interest	922	63
" note of C. J. Hallburg, with interest	108	00
" amount due from R. Stewart	334	40
" cash on hand	154	54
		$3279 65

[E. O. E.]

New Orleans, March 9, 1858.

NEW ORLEANS METHODIST DEPOSITORY.

The following report of the Board of Trustees of the New Orleans Methodist Depository, was adopted by the Conference, and the election of W. S. Mount, as Trustee, confirmed :

MANSFIELD, LA., February, 1858.

The Board of Trustees of the New Orleans Methodist Depository respectfully beg leave to present the following report in relation to the contemplated Book Depository and office for the New Orleans Christian Advocate :

The Agent appointed by the Conference—the Rev. R. J. Harp—has been at his post, and your Board are happy to state that a most encouraging measure of success has crowned his exertions, though the year past, taken as a whole, has not been the most favorable to the objects of his agency. He has secured in cash, drafts, and notes, falling due in 1858, 1859, and 1860, the sum of $16,934, and a pledge of $5,000 more from the friends of the enterprise in New Orleans.

The Board allowed the Agent a salary of $1,000, and his traveling expenses, which have amounted to $574 75, which, deducted from the $16,934, in cash, drafts and notes, leaves a balance of $15,359 25.

The Book Depository and New Orleans Christian Advocate are at present domiciliated at 112 Camp street, New Orleans.

By the resignation of *Dr.* B. F. Moss, a vacancy occurred in the Board, which was filled by the election of William S. Mount, which election the Board respectfully request this Conference to confirm.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. B. WALKER, President of the Board.

At a meeting of the Board, January 25, 1858, at No. 112 Camp street, New Orleans, the following resolutions were unanimously passed :

Resolved, That the thanks of this Board, and of the friends of this enterprise, are due and are hereby tendered to the *Rev.* R. J. Harp, for the laborious, judicious and successful manner in which he has fulfilled the agency of the Depository, to which he was appointed by the Louisiana Annual Conference.

Resolved, That the Conference be and is hereby respectfully requested to appoint *Rev.* R. J. Harp to the agency, or allow him to give a few months of the coming Conference year to the completion of the noble work he has thus far prosecuted.

J. B. WALKER, President.

W. H. DAMERON, Secretary.

BIBLE CAUSE.

Q. 19.—What is the action of the Conference on the Bible Cause?

A.—The following report was adopted :

To the Bishop and Members of the Louisiana Conference of the M. E. Church, South, at Mansfield Assembled :

BRETHREN—Your Committee on the Bible Cause beg leave to offer the following as their report :

We regard the dissemination of truth as paramount to every other work—truth which will find the mind and heart of man, and prepare him for a brighter destiny, when the lamp of mortal life has ceased to burn. In the dissemination of this truth we regard the circulation of the scriptures as the most potent and effectual means. The Bible stands preëminent to all other books, whether scientific, literary or religious. Under whatever phase we may examine it—whether as a philosophical, logical, law or poetical work—it is stamped with a divine superiority, in comparison as the blazing sun to the twinkling stars ; and like the sun—it gives to all other productions whatever of worth they possess. Shining in its own imperial and uncreated splendour, it wraps the world in a mantle of glory—sheds it joyous lustre o'er the grave—paints the fadeless splendors of immortality on the future—and fingerboards the path of man along the track of time, to mansions of bliss in Heaven.

The Bible, read and believed, elevates man intellectually, physically and morally. It is an everlasting fountain of elevated scientific truth, and at the same time an inexhaustable mine of moral wealth—affording means of mental and moral character, which will make us lights in the world and angels in glory.

We consider it the grossest imbecility to turn from the word of God to consult the productions of men. Are you a philosopher ? The Bible is the true foundation stone of all correct philosophy ; *it* philosophises upon the being and attributes of God, and tells us what is man ; it philosophises upon time as connected with eternity. Are you a logician ? Here is logic—pure, cogent, powerful ; thought as deep as thought can dive, thought as high as thought can soar. Are you a lawyer ? Here is law superior and supreme. Go read the laws of Menu and Zoroaster —of Lycurgus and Solon—of Greece and Rome in their brightest days —of Old England—read Chitty and Blackstone—our own laws—laws which doubtless were written under divine auspices—laws under which we have lived in peaceful prosperity unequaled in the world—laws over which science and literature have thrown their protecting mantle, gilded with all the glory of the nineteenth century ; and they *all*, when compared to the Bible, are stamped with infinite inferiority. That simple law, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and thy neighbor as thyself," believed and obeyed by man, would transform the Earth to a Paradise. Lawyers and Judges would be feeless—jails and prisons would be tenantless and demolished—vice, with ignorance and superstition, would take the raven wings of the night and flee Earth's utmost bounds ; and Earth would roll in her orbit as pure and chaste as a virgin. Are you a reader of poetry ? Turn from the beggared productions of Shakespeare and Byron, and read the mellow strains of living song, as it streams from the pen of the " Bards of the Bible "—men whose souls had been fired by the mellow strains which fall from the warbling wires of golden lyres, in the New Jerusalem. 'Tis said of Byron:

" That he from above, descending,
Stooped, to touch the loftiest thought,
And proudly stooped as though *it* scarce deserved his verse."

Yet methinks the tallest, mightiest stretch of Byron's mind ne'er reached *half* the altitude of the thoughts of the Bards of the olden time. Read the first psalm—see its strength and pathos; the nineteenth—see its beauty and grandeur; the twenty-third—see its melting tenderness. And Isaiah says, in burning eloquence, "The wilderness, and the solitary place, shall be glad for them, and the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose."

In view of the infinite superiority of the Bible, therefore—

1. *Resolved*, That we believe it to be of Divine authority, and that we will discourage any attempt to alter or amend it.

2. *Resolved*, That we recommend it to all classes and occupations of life, as a fountain of living waters, from which they may slake immortal thirst.

3. *Resolved*, That we recommend the Bible as a text book in all of our schools.

4. *Resolved*, That we will lend our energies to the propagation of its truths in every way possible.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

BENJAMIN F. WHITE,
Chairman of Bible Committee.

BIBLE SOCIETY.

Report of Moneys Collected for Bible Cause during the Year Closing, February 3d, 1858:

Carondelet street, $165; paid to Bible Society.....	$165 00
Second German Mission, $3 cash, Pauley; paid to J——...	3 00
Moreau street, $28 cash, J. W. Johnson; paid to J.——...	28 00
Trinity Circuit, $7; invested in books on the work.....	7 00
Monroe and Trenton Circuit, $225; used on the work.....	225 00
Whole amount.....	$428 00

MONUMENTS FOR DECEASED MINISTERS.

The Committee on Monuments reported that the remains of the following Ministers who have labored in Louisiana are resting without tomb-stones or scarcely a board to mark the spot where they are buried:

Richmond Nolly, in Catahoula.
——— Brewer, at Cotile.
——— Jones, beyond the Calcasieu.
William Hines, at Donaldsonville.
——— Tinder, at the mouth of Bartholomew, in Ouachita Parish.
H. B. Page and two children, burnt on the "Yellow Busha," opposite Bayou Goula.
William Tostrick, in New Orleans.
Jesse A. Guice, in Tensas Parish.
——— Bremer in New Orleans.

W. H. Turnley, in Catahoula.
Alexander M. Whitney, near Chaneyville.
R. L. Childers, in Carrollton, Jefferson Parish.
Thomas H. Foster, in Baton Rouge.
W. Stevenson, in Bossier.

Resolved, That Monuments of white marble, of uniform size and value, be raised to these brethren, with an inscription stating that it is raised by the Louisiana Conference; the place and date of birth and conversion, the date of admission into the travelling connection; the dates and places of successive appointments; the date and place of death, and the last text preached from.

Resolved, 2d, That the value of the stone be ——— dollars; and the shape of the stone a solid, two feet square and four feet high, and placed upon a granite base.

Resolved 3d, That each Preacher in the bounds of whose work any traveling preacher may have died, shall ascertain the exact place where his remains lie, and forward a statement of the fact to the Chairman of the Committee at New Orleans.

J. C. Keener, J. B. Walker, and H. N. McTyeire were appointed Standing Committee on Monuments.

COLLECTIONS TO BE TAKEN UP IN 1858.

1. The Collection for Home and Foreign Missions.
2. The Widows' and Orphans' Per Cent.
3. The Collection for Bible Cause.
4. The Collection for Tract Cause.
5. It was—

Resolved, That the Preachers in charge of the several Stations and Circuits be directed to take up a collection to defray the expenses of our Delegates to the next General Conference, at some time previous to the first week in April; and to forward the said amounts to Rev. H. N. McTyeire, N. O., or to one of the Delegates.

MISCELLANEOUS RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, That this Conference recommend to the General Conference to sit in Nashville, Tennessee, in May next, to strike out that part of the Discipline on page 48, relating to the City of New Orleans, as an exception to the usual itinerant system, viz: the entire lines 14 and 15, as we regard said exception no longer necessary: and that the Delegates to the General Conference be instructed to use their influence to have said exception stricken out.

ALABAMA RESOLUTIONS.

The purport of these is to memorialize the General Conference to strike out the following from the general rules: "The buying and selling of men, women, and children, with an intention to enslave them." The concurrence of the Conference on these Resolutions was unanimous.

HOLSTON RESOLUTIONS.

The purport of these Resolutions is to memorialize the General Conference to make the change of Conference boundaries dependant upon the consent of the Conference in whose bounds the change is to be made. *Not* concurred in. Nays 42; yeas 4.

RECEPTION OF MEMBERS.

Resolved, That this Conference is deeply impressed with the importance of some form of receiving members into the Church, in order to secure uniformity in the administration of Discipline, as well as for other purposes; and that we respectfully request the attention of the ensuing General Conference to this matter.

CONFERENCE TERRITORY.

Resolved, That our Delegates be requested to urge the General Conference to attach the remaining part of the State of Louisiana to the Louisiana Conference.

DELEGATES TO GENERAL CONFERENCE.

R. J. Harp, S. J. Davies, H. N. McTyeire, H. C. Thweatt, and J. A. Ivy. Reserves—R. Randle, L. A. Reed.

CHANGE OF TIME.

Resolved, That we request our Bishops to change the time of holding our Conference from the first of February to the first of December.

CONFERENCE SERMON.

Resolved, That Rev. Stephen J. Davies be requested to preach the Annual Conference Sermon at the next session.

FASTING AND PRAYER.

Resolved, That the first Friday in May next be observed as a day of fasting and prayer, for a revival of religion within the bounds of this Conference.

CLOSED DOORS.

Resolved, That at our next Conference, in the examination of character, we sit with closed doors.

PRESIDING BISHOP.

Resolved, That the Conference acknowledge the efficient, kind and impartial manner in which Bishop Pierce has presided over the session now closing.

THANKS.

Resolved, That we tender our heartfelt thanks to the worthy citizens of Mansfield and vicinity for the hospitable manner in which they have entertained the Conference.

Resolved, That we tender the thanks of the Conference to our Baptist and Christian Brethren for the use of their Church.

Committee of Examination & Course of Study for 1858.

ENGLISH LITERATURE.

COMMITTEE.—A. E. Goodwyn, B. F. Alexander.

Studies.—Class of First Year.—English Grammar, (Butler's) Caldwell's Manual of Elocution—Essay.

Studies.—Class of Second Year.—Grammar and Elocution continued. Whelpley's Compend of History.

Studies.—Class of Third Year.—Whateley's Rhetoric—a Sermon.
Studies.—Class of Fourth Year.—Whateleys Logic—a Sermon.

BIBLICAL LITERATURE.

Committee.—R. J. Harp, Reynolds Triplett.

Studies.—Class of First Year.—Bible History and Biography, (Bible.)

Studies.—Class of Second Year.—Mitchell's Ancient Geography.

Studies.—Class of Third Year.—Chronology, (Horne's Introduction.)

Studies.—Class of Fourth Year.—Manners and Customs of the Jews, (Horne's Introduction.)

DOCTRINAL AND CONTROVERSIAL THEOLOGY.

Committee.—Linus Parker, S. B. Suratt.

Studies.—Class of First Year.—First Volume of Wesley's Sermons, (old edition of 2 vols.), Fletcher's Appeal, Watson's Conversations.

Studies.—Class of Second Year.—Second Volume of Wesley's Sermons, (old edition of 2 vols.), Watson's Apology, Sacraments, (fourth part of Watson's Institutes.)

Studies.—Class of Third Year.—Fletcher's Christian Perfection, First and Second Parts of Watson's Institutes.

Studies.—Class of Fourth Year.—Third Part of Watson's Institutes, Edgar's Variations of Popery, Power on Universalism.

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY AND CHURCH GOVERNMENT.

Committee.—H. N. McTyeire, J. B. Walker.

Studies.—Class of First Year.—Discipline, Clark's Manual.

Studies.—Class of Second Year.—Baker on Discipline, Watson's Life of Wesley.

Studies.—Class of Third Year.—Mosheim's Church History.

Studies.—Class of Fourth Year.—Powell on Succession; Whately on Episcopacy.

Resolved, That the Committees of examination, and classes to be examined, be requested to be at the seat of Conference at 9 o'clock on Monday morning preceding the meeting of Conference.

Resolved, That in case of the absence of any member of the examining Committee, the remaining members shall be responsible to the Conference for the examination of the several classes.

VISITING COMMITTEES.

Centenary College.—J. W. Johnson, S. B. Suratt, R. J. Harp.

Mansfield Female College.—J. L. Chapman, J. L. Wright, Joel Saunders.

Homer College.—R. R. R. Alexander, A. E. Goodwyn, R. Trippett.

[Note.—The Committee have not been able to find any record of appointments to these several institutions for the present year, and they have inserted them as they appeared last year.]

DONATION.

Resolved, That the sum of thirty dollars be allowed to the widow and orphans of Bro. Turnley, from the funds now on hand, and that the Conference Stewards be authorized to pay it over.

CASE OF REV. WM. FINN.

The Bishop decided that the suspension of Rev. William Finn had expired, and the Conference granted him a location at his own request.

Q. 20.—Where shall the next Conference be held?

A.—In New Orleans, at the McGehee Church, Carondelet street.

Q. 21.—Where are the Preachers stationed this year?

ANSWER.—

NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT.—J. B. WALKER, P. E.

Carondelet Street and Wesley Chapel, LINUS PARKER.
Felicity Street and Winans Chapel, J. C. KEENER.
Moreau Street and Soule Chapel, R. J. HARP.
First and Fourth German Missions, to be supplied.
Second German Mission, JOHN PAULY.
Third German Mission, to be supplied.
City Missionary, CHARLES H. HALLBERG.
Algiers, H. N. McTYEIRE, and editor of the New Orleans Christian Advocate.
New Orleans Circuit, to be supplied.
Baton Rouge, HENRY AVERY.
Plaquemine and Gross Tête, S. HAWS, *Jesse Fulton.*
New River Mission, to be supplied.
Thibodaux, M. D. T. FLY.
Lafourche and Bayou Black Circuit and Mission, N. A. CRAVENS.
Atchafalaya, Jeptha Landrum.
Centenary College, A. G. MILLER, Principal of Preparatory Department.

OPELOUSAS DISTRICT.—A. B. FLY, P. E.

Franklin and Pattersonville, J. W. JOHNSON.
Bayou Teche Mission, *J. T. Fontain.*
New Iberia, STEPHENS J. DAVIES.
Vermillion, to be supplied.
Opelousas, B. F. WHITE.
St. Landry Mission, to be supplied.
Washington, A. W. SMITH.
Evergreen, D. S. WATKINS.
Evergreen, to be supplied.
Alexandria, J. A. IVEY.
North Rapides Circuit, W. D. Stayton.
North Rapides Mission, URIAH WHATLEY.
Harrisonburg, Thos. J. Mercer.
Columbia, BENJ. C. STEGALL.
Calcasieu, Robert T. Parish.

SHREVEPORT DISTRICT.—John Pipes, P. E.
Shreveport, Jas. S. Chapman.
Caddo Circuit, S. J. Hawkins ; one to be supplied.
Mansfield and Pleasant Hill, Samuel B. Suratt.
Grand Cain, *J. F. Scurlock.*
Natchitoches Circuit, *Robert Parvin ;* one to be supplied.
Sparta, R. M. Crowson.
Red River, Jno. C. Reed.
Lake Bisteneau, D. M. K. Collins.
North Bossier, S. S. Scott.
Mansfield College, N. C. Thweatt, President; E. D. Pitts, Profes'r.
Agent for Mansfield Female College, P. M. Goodwyn, member of Mansfield Quarterly Conference.
Agent for Pierce and Paine College, B. F. Alexander, and member of Mansfield Quarterly Conference.

OUACHITA DISTRICT.—R. R. R. Alexander, P. E.
Minden, A. E. Goodwyn.
Homer, Jas. L. Wright ; *C. W. Coursey,* Supernumerary.
Farmerville, *D. P. Cullen.*
Monroe and Trenton and Col'd Mission, T. B. White.
Ouachita, *Uriah Riley.*
Bastrop, T. J. Lacey, E. D. Earnheart.
Vernon, Chas. W. Hodge.
Dugdemona, R. O. M. White.
Winfield Mission, S. J. Graves.
Sabine Mission.—W. A. Smyth.
Agent for Homer College.—R. Randle, and Member of Quarterly Conference at Minden.

LAKE PROVIDENCE DISTRICT.—Lewis A. Reed, P. E.
Lake Providence, T. L. Beard, and W. S. McGaughey.
Carroll Colored Mission, H. W. Segrist. One to be supplied.
Carroll Circuit, *F. T. Rawson,* J. H. Winn.
Richmond & Madison, & Col'd Miss'n, J. H. Waters, J. N. Miller.
Ion Circuit, J. H. Boult.
St. Joseph Circuit, R. Trippet, *R. A. New.*
New Carthage Colored Mission, E. Griswold.
Waterproof, J. B. Adams.
Tensas Colored Mission, J. C. Pitts.
Winsboro' Circuit, T. H. McLendon, T. J. Upton.
Sicily Island Colored Mission, to be supplied.
Trinity, J. P. Richardson, Robert L. Taylor.
Concordia Circuit, to be supplied.
Agent for Conference Tract Society, Joel Saunders, and Member of Homer Quarterly Conference.
Wm. R. Davis, transferred to Ouachita Conference.
S. D. Aiken, transferred to Louisville Conference, and made Supernumeray.
E. A. Stephenson, transferred to Ouachita.
David Kinnear, Superannuated.